

Serial No. 10/753,898
Office Action dated February 17, 2005

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listing of claims in the application.

Claims 1, 3 and 4 are amended.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) Cage arrangement for poultry having cage batteries arranged above a manure pit, each battery displaying two cages facing each other, wherein the cages are arranged one atop another in tiers, said cage ~~arrangement~~ arrangement comprises:
[[a)] a manure scraper arranged in each tier underneath each cage;
[[b)] ~~wherein an open space present between the two cages facing each other~~ define an open space; and
[[c)] ~~under the open space, a passage present in the~~ a cover plate of the manure pit defining a passage located under the open space for [[the]] manure conveyed into the open space by the manure scrapers;
wherein the manure scrapers are driven in a back-and-forth manner and are arranged on a traction cable that circulates around idler pulleys, and wherein a drive pulley drives the traction cable back and forth.
2. (Canceled)
3. (Currently Amended) Cage arrangement as claimed in claim 1, wherein ~~provided below each cage is a manure plate~~ is provided below each cage[[,]] ~~and wherein upon which the associated manure scraper glides~~ upon the respective manure plate.

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4. (Currently Amended) Cage arrangement as claimed in claim 1, wherein the cages of the uppermost tier are connected to each other so as to bridge the open space.